

## Region 2 Sensitive Species List

### **Mountain Sucker (*Catostomus platyrhynchus*)**

Recommendation Rationale: **R2 Sensitive Species**

Critically imperiled in Nebraska, imperiled in Colorado and vulnerable in South Dakota, where a disjunct population is found in the Black Hills. Although apparently secure in the core of its Black Hills range, this population has suffered range retraction, as it has in the remainder of formerly occupied range in R2. Extensive hydrologic modification may be threatening populations through hydrologic and geomorphic modification, as well as shifting habitat suitability towards a strong competitor, the introduced white sucker. The species requires streams with cool, clear water and gravel substrates for spawning. Hydrologic modification, land use practices, and irrigation increasingly alter the substrates and increase the turbidity of mountain sucker streams through siltation. The mountain sucker appears to be in a downward trend in most of the southeast portion of its range, including R2.

Revised on January 13, 2003 by Gary Patton